

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Withdrawn) A playback/recording apparatus for performing transfer of contents recorded on an erasable storage medium, comprising:

a playback means for reproducing contents recorded on a first storage medium, and outputting the contents;

a detection means for detecting copyright information of the contents;

an erasing means for erasing the contents from the first storage medium; and

a recording means for recording the contents on a second storage medium;

wherein, when performing transfer of the contents, the contents are reproduced by the playback means and outputted and, when the output of the detection means indicates that the contents are copy-inhibited, the contents are erased from the first storage medium by the erasing means and, simultaneously, the contents are recorded on the second storage medium by the recording means, thereby transferring the contents.

2. (Withdrawn) A playback/recording apparatus for performing transfer of contents recorded on an erasable storage medium, comprising:

a playback means for reproducing contents recorded on a first storage medium, and outputting the contents;

a detection means for detecting copyright information of the contents;

an erasing means for erasing the contents from the first storage medium;

an encryption means for encrypting the output of the playback means, and outputting the encrypted data;

a temporary storage means for temporarily storing the encrypted data;

a decryption means for decrypting the encrypted data; and

a recording means for recording the contents on a second storage medium;

wherein, when performing transfer of the contents, the contents are reproduced by the playback means and outputted and, when the output of the detection means indicates that the contents are copy-inhibited, the contents are erased from the first storage medium by the erasing means and, simultaneously, the contents are encrypted by the encryption means and temporarily stored in the temporary storage means and,

after the erasing is ended, the encrypted data stored in the temporary storage means are read and outputted, and the encrypted data are decrypted by the decryption means and outputted and, further, the encrypted data stored in the temporary storage means are erased, and the decrypted contents are recorded on the second storage medium by the recording means, thereby transferring the contents.

3. (Withdrawn) A playback/recording apparatus for performing transfer of contents recorded on an erasable storage medium, between apparatuses:

said playback/recording apparatus comprising a playback/erasing apparatus as a first apparatus, a recording apparatus as a second apparatus, and a transmission line such as a transmission cable or the like for connecting the first and second apparatuses;

said first apparatus comprising:

a first authentication means for performing mutual authentication with the second apparatus, and transfer of contents including transfer information which indicates transfer of the contents, or the like, between itself and the second apparatus;

a playback means for reproducing contents recorded on a first storage medium, and outputting the reproduced contents;

a detection means for detecting copyright information of the contents;

an erasing means for erasing the contents from the first storage medium; and

an analog protection system (APS) for incorporating analog protection, the transfer information, and the like into the output of the playback means; and

said second apparatus comprising:

a second authentication means for performing mutual authentication with the first apparatus, and transfer of the contents including the transfer information, between itself and the first apparatus; and

a recording means for recording the contents on a second storage medium;

wherein, when performing transfer of the contents, mutual authentication is carried out between the first authentication means and the second authentication means, and the contents are reproduced by the playback means and outputted and, when the output of the detection means indicates that the contents are copy-inhibited,

the analog protection, the transfer information, and the like are incorporated into the output of the playback means by the APS, and the contents are erased from the first storage medium by the erasing means and, simultaneously, the transfer information is detected by the second authentication means, and the contents are recorded on the second storage medium by the recording means on the basis of the transfer information, thereby transferring the contents.

4. (Previously Canceled Without Prejudice or Disclaimer)

5. (Previously Canceled Without Prejudice or Disclaimer)

6. (Original) A playback/recording apparatus for performing transfer of contents recorded on an erasable storage medium, between apparatuses:

said playback/recording apparatus comprising a playback/erasing apparatus as a first apparatus, a recording apparatus as a second apparatus, and a transmission line such as a transmission cable or the like for connecting the first and second apparatuses;

said first apparatus comprising:

a first authentication means for performing mutual authentication and transfer of contents between itself and the second apparatus;

a playback means for reproducing contents recorded on a first storage medium, and outputting the reproduced contents;

a detection means for detecting copyright information of the contents;

an erasing means for erasing the contents from the first storage medium; and

an encryption means for encrypting the output from the playback means, and outputting the encrypted data; and

said second apparatus comprising:

a second authentication means for performing mutual authentication and transfer of contents between itself and the first apparatus;

a decryption means for decrypting the encrypted data; and

a recording means for recording the contents on a second storage means;

wherein, when performing transfer of the contents, mutual authentication is carried out between the first authentication means and the second authentication means, the contents are reproduced by the playback means and outputted and, when the output of the detection means indicates that the contents are copy-inhibited, data of the contents are encrypted by the encryption means and outputted, the contents are erased from the first storage medium by the erasing means, the encrypted data are decrypted by the decryption means and outputted, and the contents are recorded on the second storage means by the recording means, thereby transferring the contents.

7. (Withdrawn) A playback/recording apparatus for performing transfer of contents recorded on an erasable storage medium, between apparatuses:

said playback/recording apparatus comprising a playback/erasing apparatus as a first apparatus, a recording apparatus as a second apparatus, and a transmission line such as a transmission cable or the like for connecting the first and second apparatuses;

said first apparatus comprising:

a first authentication means for performing mutual authentication with the second apparatus, and transfer of contents including transfer information which indicates transfer of the contents, or the like, between itself and the second apparatus;

a playback means for reproducing contents recorded on a first storage medium, and outputting the reproduced contents;

a detection means for detecting copyright information of the contents;

an erasing means for erasing the contents from the first storage medium;

a compression means for compressing image data of the contents, and outputting the compressed data; and

an encryption means for encrypting the output from the playback means, and outputting the encrypted data; and

said second apparatus comprising:

a second authentication means for performing mutual authentication with the first apparatus, and transfer of contents including transfer information which indicates transfer of the contents, or the like, between itself and the first apparatus;

a decryption means for decrypting the encrypted data;
a decompression means for decompressing the compressed data; and
a recording means for recording the contents on a second storage means;
wherein, when performing transfer of the contents, mutual authentication is carried out between the first authentication means and the second authentication means, the contents are reproduced by the playback means and outputted and, when the output of the detection means indicates that the contents are copy-inhibited, image data of the contents are compressed by the compression means and, simultaneously, additional information such as the copyright information, the transfer information and the like are inserted in an area which is secured by the compression, the data of the contents are encrypted by the encryption means and outputted, the contents are erased from the first storage medium by the erasing means and, when the additional information including the transfer information is detected by the second authentication means, the encrypted data are decrypted by the decryption means, the compressed data are decompressed by the decompression means to output the image data, and the contents are recorded on the second storage means by the recording means, thereby transferring the contents.

8. (Withdrawn) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 7, wherein:
said compression means is a means for compressing data by reducing a total number T of unused generated values which are smaller than a generated value G;
the generated value G is a value which is generated by arranging plural data values so as to have digits, among data where the total number of values to be used as data values within the contents is less than the total number of values expressed by a number of bits per data value, i.e., among data having values not to be used as data values;
the unused generated values are values which include the unused data values and are generated by arranging plural data values so as to have digits; and
the plural data values are made to have the same number of digits by adding 0 until reaching a number of digits of a maximum data value.

9. (Withdrawn) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 7, wherein:
- said decompression means is a means for decompressing the compressed data by calculating the total number T of unused generated values which are smaller than a generated value G , and adding it to the generated value G ;
 - the generated value G is a value which is generated by arranging plural data values so as to have digits, among data where the total number of data values to be used as data values within the contents is less than the total number of values expressed by a number of bits per data value, i.e., among data having values not to be used as data values;
 - the unused generated values are values which include the unused data values and are generated by arranging plural data values so as to have digits; and
 - the plural data values are made to have the same number of digits by adding 0 until reaching a number of digits of a maximum data value.

10. (Original) A playback/erasing apparatus as a first apparatus, which is one of components of a playback/recording apparatus for performing transfer of contents recorded on an erasable storage medium, between the first apparatus and a second apparatus, comprising:
- a first authentication means for performing mutual authentication and transfer of contents between itself and the second apparatus;
 - a playback means for reproducing contents recorded on a first storage medium, and outputting the reproduced contents;
 - a detection means for detecting copyright information of the contents; and
 - an erasing means for erasing the contents from the first storage medium;
- wherein, when performing transfer of the contents, mutual authentication is carried out between the first authentication means and the second apparatus, and the contents are reproduced by the playback means and outputted and, when the output of the detection means indicates that the contents are copy-inhibited, the contents are erased from the first storage medium by the erasing means.

11. (Withdrawn) A playback/erasing apparatus as a first apparatus, which is one of components of a playback/recording apparatus for performing transfer of contents recorded on an erasable storage medium, between the first apparatus and a second apparatus, comprising:

a first authentication means for performing mutual authentication with the second apparatus, and transfer of contents including transfer information which indicates transfer of the contents, or the like, between itself and the second apparatus;

a playback means for reproducing contents recorded on a first storage medium, and outputting the reproduced contents;

a detection means for detecting copyright information of the contents;

an erasing means for erasing the contents from the first storage medium; and

an analog protection system (APS) for incorporating analog protection and the transfer information or the like into the output of the playback means;

wherein, when performing transfer of the contents, mutual authentication is carried out between the first authentication means and the second apparatus, and the contents are reproduced by the playback means and outputted and, when the output of the detection means indicates that the contents are copy-inhibited, the analog protection and the transfer information or the like are incorporated into the output of the playback means by the APS, and the contents are erased from the first storage medium by the erasing means.

12. (Previously Canceled Without Prejudice or Disclaimer)

13. (Original) A playback/erasing apparatus as a first apparatus, which is one of components of a playback/recording apparatus for performing transfer of contents recorded on an erasable storage medium, between the first apparatus and a second apparatus, comprising:

a first authentication means for performing mutual authentication and transfer of contents between itself and the second apparatus;

a playback means for reproducing contents recorded on a first storage medium, and outputting the reproduced contents;

a detection means for detecting copyright information of the contents;
an erasing means for erasing the contents from the first storage medium; and
an encryption means for encrypting the output of the playback means, and outputting the encrypted data;

wherein, when performing transfer of the contents, mutual authentication is carried out between the first authentication means and the second apparatus, and the contents are reproduced by the playback means and outputted and, when the output of the detection means indicates that the contents are copy-inhibited, the data of the contents are encrypted by the encryption means and outputted, and the contents are erased from the first storage medium by the erasing means.

14. (Withdrawn) A playback/erasing apparatus as a first apparatus, which is one of components of a playback/recording apparatus for performing transfer of contents recorded on an erasable storage medium, between the first apparatus and a second apparatus, comprising:

a first authentication means for performing mutual authentication with the second apparatus, and transfer of contents including transfer information which indicates transfer of the contents, or the like, between itself and the second apparatus;

a playback means for reproducing contents recorded on a first storage medium, and outputting the reproduced contents;

a detection means for detecting copyright information of the contents;
an erasing means for erasing the contents from the first storage medium;

a compression means for compressing image data of the contents, and outputting the compressed data; and

an encryption means for encrypting the output of the playback means, and outputting the encrypted data;

wherein, when performing transfer of the contents, mutual authentication is carried out between the first authentication means and the second apparatus, and the contents are reproduced by the playback means and outputted and, when the output of the detection means indicates that the contents are copy-inhibited, the image data of the contents are compressed by the compression means and additional information

such as the copyright information, the transfer information and the like are inserted in an area which is secured by the compression, the data of the contents are encrypted by the encryption means and outputted, and the contents are erased from the first storage medium by the erasing means.

15. (Previously Canceled Without Prejudice or Disclaimer)

16. (Withdrawn) A recording apparatus as a second apparatus, which is one of components of a playback/recording apparatus for performing transfer of contents recorded on an erasable storage medium between a first apparatus and the second apparatus, comprising:

- a second authentication means for performing mutual authentication with the first apparatus, and transfer of contents including transfer information which indicates transfer of the contents, or the like, between itself and the first apparatus; and

- a recording means for recording the contents on a second storage medium;

wherein, when performing transfer of the contents, mutual authentication is carried out between the second authentication means and the first apparatus, the transfer information is detected by the second authentication means, and the contents are recorded on the second storage means by the recording means on the basis of the transfer information.

17. (Previously Canceled Without Prejudice or Disclaimer)

18. (Original) A recording apparatus as a second apparatus, which is one of components of a playback/recording apparatus for performing transfer of contents recorded on an erasable storage medium between a first apparatus and the second apparatus, comprising:

- a second authentication means for performing mutual authentication and transfer of contents between itself and the first apparatus;

- a decryption means for decrypting encrypted data; and

- a recording means for recording the contents on a second storage medium;

wherein, when performing transfer of the contents, mutual authentication is carried out between the second authentication means and the first apparatus, encrypted data are decrypted by the decryption means and outputted, and the contents are recorded on the second storage means by the recording means.

19. (Withdrawn) A recording apparatus as a second apparatus, which is one of components of a playback/recording apparatus for performing transfer of contents recorded on an erasable storage medium between a first apparatus and the second apparatus, comprising:

- a second authentication means for performing mutual authentication with the first apparatus, and transfer of contents including transfer information which indicates transfer of the contents, or the like, between itself and the first apparatus;

- a decompression means for decompressing compressed data; and

- a recording means for recording the contents on a second storage medium;

wherein, when performing transfer of the contents, mutual authentication is carried out between the second authentication means and the first apparatus and, when additional information including the transfer information and the like is detected by the second authentication means, encrypted data are decrypted by the decryption means and outputted, compressed data are decompressed by the decompression means to output the contents, and the contents are recorded on the second storage means by the recording means.

20. (Previously Canceled Without Prejudice or Disclaimer)

21. (Currently Amended) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 6[[,]] further comprising a temporary storage means for temporarily storing the contents; wherein the contents are temporarily stored in the temporary storage means.

22. (Currently Amended) The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined in Claim 13[[,]] further comprising a temporary storage means for temporarily storing the contents;

wherein the contents are temporarily stored in the temporary storage means.

23. (Currently Amended) The recording apparatus as the second apparatus defined in Claim 18[[,]] further comprising a temporary storage means for temporarily storing the contents; wherein the contents are temporarily stored in the temporary storage means.

24. (Withdrawn) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 1 further comprising:

- a second playback means for reproducing the contents recorded on the second storage medium; and

- a control means for controlling the playback means or the erasing means, the second playback means, and the recording means;

- wherein the playback means or the erasing means, the second playback means, and the recording means are controlled by the control means on the basis of transfer information including information of collation between a recording signal to the second storage medium and a reproduced signal from the second storage medium, or the like, thereby performing transfer of the contents.

25. (Withdrawn) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 3, further comprising:

- a second playback means for reproducing the contents recorded on the second storage medium;

- a first control means for controlling the playback means and the erasing means; and

- a second control means for controlling the second playback means and the recording means;

- wherein the playback means or the erasing means, the second playback means, and the recording means are controlled by the first control means or the second control means, on the basis of transfer information including information of collation between a recording signal to the second storage medium and a reproduced signal from the second storage medium, or the like, thereby performing transfer of the contents.

26. (Previously Presented) The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined in Claim 10, further comprising a first control means for controlling the playback means and the erasing means;

wherein the playback means and the erasing means are controlled by the first control means, thereby performing transfer of the contents.

27. (Withdrawn) The recording apparatus as the second apparatus defined in Claim 16, further comprising:

a second playback means for reproducing the contents recorded on the second storage means; and

a second control means for controlling the second playback means and the recording means;

wherein the second playback means and the recording means are controlled by the second control means on the basis of transfer information including information of collation between a recording signal to the second storage medium and a reproduced signal from the second storage medium, or the like, thereby performing transfer of the contents.

28. (Withdrawn) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 3, wherein mutual authentication by the first authentication means or the second authentication means is also carried out during transfer of the contents, and the transfer of the contents is continued when mutual authentication is established.

29. (Previously Presented) The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined in Claim 10, wherein mutual authentication by the first authentication means is also carried out during transfer of the contents, and the transfer of the contents is continued when mutual authentication is established.

30. (Withdrawn) The recording apparatus as the second apparatus defined in Claim 16, wherein mutual authentication by the second authentication means is also carried

out during transfer of the contents, and the transfer of the contents is continued when mutual authentication is established.

31-39. (Previously Canceled Without Prejudice or Disclaimer)

40. (Withdrawn) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 1 further comprising a transfer instruction means for sending an instruction for transferring the contents, to the playback/ recording apparatus;

wherein transfer of the contents is carried out according to the instruction of the transfer instruction means.

41. (Withdrawn) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 3, further comprising a transfer instruction means for sending an instruction for transferring the contents, to the first apparatus;

wherein transfer of the contents is carried out according to the instruction of the transfer instruction means.

42. (Previously Presented) The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined in Claim 10, further comprising a transfer instruction means for sending an instruction for transferring the contents, to the first apparatus;

wherein transfer of the contents is carried out according to the instruction of the transfer instruction means.

43. (Withdrawn) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 1 further comprising a transfer display means for displaying whether the contents are being transferred or not;

wherein, when the contents are being transferred, it is displayed by the transfer display means for the outside of the apparatus.

44. (Withdrawn) The playback/recording apparatus defined in Claim 3, wherein:

the first apparatus is provided with a transfer display means for displaying whether the contents are being transferred or not; and

when the contents are being transferred, it is displayed by the transfer display means for the outside of the apparatus.

45. (Withdrawn) The playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus defined in Claim 10, further comprising a transfer display means for displaying whether the contents are being transferred or not;

wherein, when the contents are being transferred, it is displayed by the transfer display means for the outside of the apparatus.

46. (Withdrawn) A storage medium or a removable storage medium having information indicating whether transfer of contents is permitted or not, on which transfer of contents is carried out by the playback/recording apparatus, or the playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus, or the recording apparatus as the second apparatus, which is defined in Claim 3.

47-80. (Previously Canceled Without Prejudice or Disclaimer)

81. (Withdrawn) A storage medium or a removable storage medium having information indicating whether transfer of contents is permitted or not, on which transfer of contents is carried out by the playback/recording apparatus, which is defined in Claim 1.

82. (Previously Presented) A storage medium or a removable storage medium having information indicating whether transfer of contents is carried out by the playback/erasing apparatus as the first apparatus, which is defined in Claim 10.

83. (Withdrawn) A storage medium or a removable storage medium having information indicating whether transfer of contents is permitted or not, on which transfer

of contents is carried out by the recording apparatus as the second apparatus, which is defined in Claim 16.